

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 02736 170958Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 TRSE-00 /084 W
-----063910 172157Z /61

R 170855Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1897
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, RP
SUBJ: PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO CLAIM SALAMAT
IS NEW MNLF CHAIRMAN

1. PHILIPPINE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
HAS RELEASED TEXT OF CAPTURED MNLF DOCUMENT TITLED
"INSTRUMENT OF TAKE-OVER" IN WHICH HASHIM SALAMAT CLAIMS
TO "TAKE OVER AND ASSUME THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE MORO
NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT." THE DOCUMENT, SENT BY SALAMAT
TO THE ISLAMIC CONFERENCE (IC), CHARGES NUR MISUARI
WITH MANIPULATING THE MNLF AWAY FROM ISLAM AND TOWARDS
"MARXIST-LENINIST ORIENTATIONS," TURING THE MNLF CENTRAL
COMMITTEE INTO A "MYSTERIOUS, EXCLUSIVE, SECRETIVE AND
MONOLITHIC BODY WHOSE POLICIES, PLANS, DECISIONS AND
DISPOSITIONS...BECAME THE EXCLUSIVE PRESERVE OF MISUARI,"
AND RESULTED IN "CONFUSION, SUSPICION AND DISAPPOINTMENTS"
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AMONG MEMBERS OF THE MNLF. GOP HAS ALSO PUBLICIZED A
PETITION SIGNED BY MNLF LEADERS IN CENTRAL MINDANAO
ASKING THE IC AND WORLD ISLAMIC LEAGUE TO RECOGNIZE
SALAMAT AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE MNLF. COTABATO AND LANA
MNLF OFFICIALS WERE QUOTED IN MANILA PRESS SAYING THEY
WILL SUPPORT SALAMAT EVEN IF ISLAMIC CONFERENCE AND
WORLD ISLAMIC LEAGUE CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE MISUARI AS

MNLF CHAIRMAN.

2. COMMENT: AS FAR AS WE ARE ABLE TO DETERMINE HERE, MISUARI IS STILL CHAIRMAN OF THE MNLF'S CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND APPEARS TO HAVE THE NECESSARY SUPPORT TO RETAIN HIS POSITION. HOWEVER, BY PUBLICIZING THE COTABATO REBELS' DISSATISFACTION WITH MISUARI AND, AS IT HAS ON OTHER OCCASIONS, SALAMAT'S MODERATION, THE GOP MAY BE ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE THE IC, THE ULTIMATE ARBITER FOR THIS DISPUTE. THE SIGNAL THE GOP APPEARS TO BE TRANSMITTING IS THAT SALMAT IS BOTH A POPULAR LEADER AND SOMEONE WITH WHOM THEY CAN DEAL. SUPPORT FOR SALAMAT, THEREFORE, WOULD EXPEDITE THE RESOLUTION OF THE MINDANAO CONFLICT. SHOULD THE IC CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE MISUARI, HOWEVER, IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THE COTABATO REBELS WILL SPLIT OFF FROM THE MNLF AND EFFECTIVELY CUT THEMSELVES OFF FROM TWO OF THE REBELS' PRINCIPAL SOURCES OF LARGESSE--THE IC AND THE WORLD ISLAMIC LEAGUE.
NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ALLEGATIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MANILA02736
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780074-0921
Format: TEL
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780242/aaaabjek.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 29f5a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3562946
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES TO CLAIM SALAMAT IS NEW MNLF CHAIRMAN
TAGS: PINS, RP, (SALAMAT, HASHIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/29f5a2d4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014